

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Color densities of patches included in a control strip are measured to perform printing control based on the color densities. The patches are arranged in the same direction as the arrangement of ink keys of a printing device. The patches include four typical patches of black, cyan, magenta, and yellow at area rates of 60 to 85% in the width of each ink key. The printing control is the control for keeping the color densities of the four typical patches of the width of each ink key in predetermined color-density ranges.